

# Shoreline Grass...



Improving the health of the Chesapeake Bay

## Saving the Bay & Saving Lives

The mission of Maryland Correctional Enterprises is to provide structured employment and training activities for offenders in order to improve employability upon release, to enhance safety and security, to reduce prison idleness, to produce quality, saleable goods and services, and to be a financially self-supporting State agency.

Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE) is the prison industry arm of the Maryland Division of Correction.

One of the many successful industry programs we manage is collecting and growing native shoreline grass seeds from the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. The seeds are germinated and grown in our greenhouse facility in the Hagerstown prison complex. When they are ready - planting can occur throughout the State, in tributaries, marshes or the Bay - wherever erosion and shore stability is a concern.

MCE is self supporting, and in fact has returned millions of dollars to the State to assist other programs and State operating budgets to reduce taxpayer expenses.

Another worthy aspect of MCE's mission is the great preparation it provides to inmates – teaching job skills and work ethics. Inmates employed by MCE return to prison less than half as often as other released inmates not participating in our program. Through these efforts that reduce recidivism we help Maryland citizens from becoming future victims of crime therefore enhancing community safety. The much needed work skills and work ethics gained from the inmate's MCE employment allow them to become productive members of society – supporting both themselves and their families.

#### An Investment in the Future

#### PLANT VARIETIES

The variety of plant species are selected for Maryland ecosystems restorations; Spartina alterniflora, Spartina patens, Scirpus Robustus, and Scirpus Americanus are the predominant stock species. Almost anything can be grown to order including high plateau shrubs and trees.

#### SERVICES PROVIDED

MCE can provide plants by the tray, ready for planting. We can deliver on site, and we can also plant graded areas. MCE grows trees too.

#### A LIVING PLANET

By protecting shores from erosion and silt migration and providing habitats for wildlife, in addition to teaching employable work skills, your support is appreciated and valued!



None of us want the day to come when we have to tell our children and grandchildren that "once upon a time we were able to fish in Maryland's waters" or that "once there were forests here, filled with wildlife." And so we are choosing once again to respond to adversity with progress; to affirm our duty to ourselves, to our children, and to the heritage of unborn generations. - Governor Martin O'Malley 12/3/2008

# **Program Partners**

#### MCE'S PARTNERS

The State's experts in shoreline protection and erosion control - the Department of Natural Resources has helped MCE develop this program. Assistance was also received from the Anne Arundel Community College Environmental Center. Many other agencies working to help keep Maryland's resources protected now and for the future have also graciously assisted MCE.

#### NO JOB IS TO SMALL

Our capacity to grow shore plants is expanding rapidly. We have additional partners who can also assist your needs should special orders require.

# CONTACT MCE FOR YOUR AGRICULTURE NEEDS.

We can offer you much more than our furniture, textiles and printing services. The saving of the Bay and the lives we change are waiting for your call.

Call today to reserve your order for the spring and summer planting season.

Visit our web page: www.mce.md.gov 410-540-5405



# How You Can Help

Grown from native Maryland seeds in our own greenhouses - shoreline plants provide a filter and an anchor for sustaining the health of the Chesapeake Bay.



### MCE is authorized to sell to: Maryland State Agencies Local Political Jurisdictions Non-Profit Organizations

- ✓ If you qualify; Contact your MCE sales representative or the Projects Department to place an order.
- ✓ Very competitive prices mean more plants for your projects.
- ✓ Volume discounts starting at 20,000 plants.
- ✓ Many types of plants are available all native to Maryland waters and shore areas.



# Make work for you. Contact us at:

For planning, ordering and assistance Contact:

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